JAN 1 0 2007 THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Confirmation No. 3781

Eiichi ISHII et al.

Attorney Docket No. 2003_1290

Serial No. 10/659,327

Group Art Unit 1742

Filed September 11, 2003

Examiner Harry Wilkins, III

METHOD OF SURFACE

TREATMENT OF TITANIUM METAL

Mail Stop AF

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of September 11, 2006, the time for responding thereto being extended for one month in accordance with a Petition for Extension of Time submitted herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows: